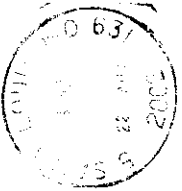
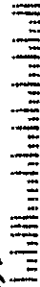


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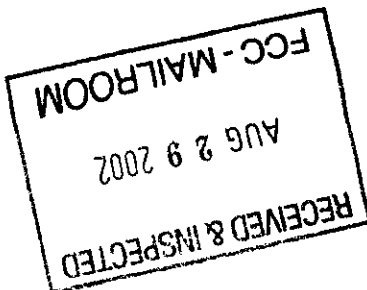



Federal Communications Commission  
Chairman Powell  
12th St SW  
Washington DC 20554



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Shirley M





St. Louis, MO.  
August 14, 2002

Chairman Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C.

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Dear Sir,

I watched your July 30, 2002 testimony on Telecommunications on CSPAN in Senator Fritz Hollings Commerce Committee and was impressed with your candor regarding the establishing a level playing field between the Cable companies and the Telephone Companies for Broadband service.

I was very disappointed with Senator Hollings remarks that he will prevent any infringement on the Cable companies by allowing a level playing field in broadband service and that Senate Bill S-2430 will never come to a vote as long as he is chairman of the Commerce Committee.

He evidently does not talk to his constituents or the rest of the citizens in this country as Cable subscribers are experiencing numerous rate increases each year and they do not have to worry as they have absolutely no competition in cable or broadband service at the present time.

The Senate Bill S-2430 was not a panacea by any means for the Telephone Companies but at least it gave them some protection from the so called competitors on new capital investments of fiber equipment. There is absolutely no reason for any company to invest money in this economy if they have to give the service away at such reduced prices to companies that have no fiscal investment and only want the higher paying business customers.

I sensed that you were sandbagged by Senator Hollings when he inferred that you should not express your opinion on level playing fields again.

J.C. Davidson